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to meet

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State Department report are attached for your information. It is apparently too late to do anything in regard to the reports to the Congress from the Department, but we suggest that prior coordination on matters so clearly affecting this Agency and the activities of the [REDACTED] might be appropriate in the future. The purpose of this memorandum is merely to call this matter to your attention for whatever action you feel is appropriate.

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William E. Nelson  
Deputy Director for Operations

Attachments: 2  
As Stated Above

WEN:pc

Distribution:

Orig - addressee via  
Mr. McAfee w/a

- ① - OLC wo/a
  - 1 - DDO Reg w/a
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- (coordinated in draft with Mr. Cary, OLC)

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

24-1395

alc 74-0445

20 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Joseph Sisco  
Under Secretary of State for  
Political Affairs

VIA: Mr. William McAfee  
INR/DDC

SUBJECT: Legislation Concerning Foreign Elections

1. The Director has asked me to advise you of his concern regarding reports sent by the Department of State to the Chairmen of the Committees on Foreign Relations in the Senate and the Judiciary in the House of Representatives. These reports comment on S. 2239, a bill "Relating to intervening in and influencing the political affairs of foreign countries or political subdivisions thereof." Our concern is that, while supporting the general means of the bill which would make punishable any payment of or solicitation of private funds to finance foreign elections, gratuitous comments in the reports on matters beyond the scope of the bill, if liberally interpreted, could invite legislative action to expand the language of the bill to cover appropriated funds and thus prohibit certain "other functions... related to intelligence affecting the national security as the National Security Council may from time to time direct, " under the National Security Act of 1947.

2. The Director has called this matter to the attention of Dr. Kissinger and our Legislative Counsel has written to the Office of Legislative Reference of the Office of Management and Budget regarding this matter. A copy of this letter and the original

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